

REPLACEMENT CLAIMS

4. (Amended) A method for forming a mark according to claim 2, wherein black nickel or an alloy of tin and nickel is used for the nickel plating layer, black chromium, an alloy of tin and cobalt, or gold is used for the chromium plating layer, and the color difference between said upper plating layer and said mark is freely varied depending on the combination.

14. (Amended) A faucet product in which a mark having a desired letter or picture is formed by a method according to claim 1.

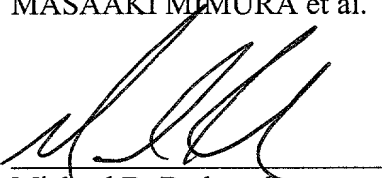
REMARKS

The foregoing amendment is being made to remove the multiple dependencies from claims 4 and 14 as filed. No new matter has been added. A favorable action on the merits of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Amended claims with markings

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

4. A method for forming a mark according to claim 2 [or 3], wherein black nickel or an alloy of tin and nickel is used for the nickel plating layer, black chromium, an alloy of tin and cobalt, or gold is used for the chromium plating layer, and the color difference between said upper plating layer and said mark is freely varied depending on the combination.

14. A faucet product in which a mark having a desired letter or picture is formed by a method according to [any one of claim 1 to 13] claim 1.

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